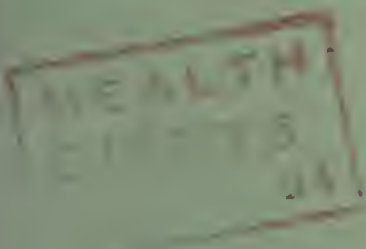


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BOROUGH OF OSWESTRY
OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1954



OSWESTRY BOROUGH AND RURAL HEALTH DISTRICTS.

*With the Compliments of
the Medical Officer of Health.*

Health Department,
8, Oswald Road,
Oswestry.

Telephone 388.



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OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the Year

1 9 5 4

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health:

C. B. McARTHUR, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

Sanitary Inspector: R.J. Lewis, M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I., Certified
Meat and Foods Inspector.

OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT

Chief Sanitary Inspector: J.V. Meredith, C.S.I.B., M.S.I.A.,
Certified Meat and Foods Inspector.

Sanitary Inspector: G. Fawcett, C.S.I.B.

Clerk: Miss O. Williams.

Clerk to the Medical Officer of Health for Oswestry Borough and
Rural Health Districts:

Miss L. Williams.

OSWESTRY BOROUGH AND RURAL HEALTH DISTRICTS

Public Health Office,
8, Oswald Road,
Oswestry,
Shropshire.

To The Mayor, Chairman, Aldermen and Councillors of the
Oswestry Borough and Rural District Councils.

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present for your perusal the Annual
Report for 1954.

The contents include the information requested by the
Minister of Health.

The Birth Rate for the Oswestry Borough and Rural Health
Districts was 13.6 per 1,000 which is 1.2 lower than that for
1953, and 1.6 lower than the National figure for 1954.

The Infant Mortality Rate was 27.7 per 1,000, 2.6 higher
than 1953. The National figure for 1954 was 25.5.

The Death Rate was 14.4 per 1,000, which was 1.7 higher
than in the previous year, and 3.1 higher than the National
figure. The increase lies chiefly in deaths due to cancer
and to cardio-vascular diseases.

The Tuberculosis Death Rate was 0.06 per 1,000. The
National figure was 0.16.

1954 will long be remembered by many as a year of grey skies and days of rain, yet during those days I am glad to report that notification of infectious disease was at a remarkably low level.

In the Spring the Mass X-Ray Unit based on Stoke-on-Trent visited the Borough, Orthopaedic Hospital and St. Martins, where sessions for senior scholars, miners and the public were held. The aim of these surveys is to detect early and unsuspected cases of disease of the chest (primarily, though not only, Tuberculosis) which are then referred to their own Doctor. On reviewing the results the number of cases requiring further investigation was about one third of that for England and Wales generally. (3.3). I hope it will be possible to arrange further surveys and that larger numbers will attend. The early detection of possibly infectious disease of the chest need not be emphasised, particularly when infection may be disseminated widely through contacts in shop or factory.

Legislation coming into force during 1954 has terminated the rationing of meat, and laid on local authorities the responsibility for securing adequate slaughter-house facilities.

The Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954 has come into effect.

In accordance with the request of the Minister of Housing and Local Government a detailed survey of the older and low-rated property in the Borough and Rural districts is in process of being completed, and the information obtained, together with the proposals of the Councils for dealing with houses unfit for human habitation or which ought to be included in clearance areas, will be forwarded to the Ministry in due course.

The question of rendering certain houses fit for temporary retention was discussed in Health Committee and you decided not to pursue such a course.

Applications for improvement grants have been disappointingly few in number in respect of houses in the Borough.

The Town has a large number of houses which are reasonably well laid out and in fairly good structural condition, but are lacking in amenities such as hot water, bathroom, and indoor W.C. Many of these could be converted or enlarged to make the work of the housewife much easier, and improve the living conditions of the family. Our housing lists show that many people are no longer content to put up with ancient inconveniences. Those who have moved to a larger house

quickly note the improvement in the activity and growth of their children, as well as in the health of the whole family.

In the Rural District water supplies have for long been from wells and springs in many areas, public supplies have been available in a comparatively small portion of the district.

I am glad to be able to report that 1954 has seen completed the major part of the work on the Bakers Hill-Bank Coppice Reservoirs which will supply the Racecourse and Selattyn and Pant Glas areas respectively.

New mains have been laid augmenting the supply available in the Ifton Heath, St. Martins and Rhosygadfa area.

Good progress is being made on the Moelydd Reservoir which will bring water to parts of Nantmawr and Trefonen, to Treflach and Whitehaven.

Sewage works are in course of construction at Morda and will provide for the needs of the new council houses under construction as well as for the majority of the private houses in the village, Morda House Hospital and Greenfields Hospital.

In my report last year I wrote of the importance of scrupulous cleanliness in the handling of food in shops and homes. Frequent visiting of places where food is prepared

and sold is carried out, and a constant effort is made to instill into those who work there the reasons why such precautions are advised. These precautions should constantly be put into practice, particularly when hot dry weather is expected.

Most people have learned that flies can spread disease by their dirty feeding habits, but how many invariably wash after using the toilet, and what state of cleanliness is maintained in that smallest room?.

It is now accepted that Poliomyelitis is spread by bowel discharges, and many cases of polio may consist of a mild febrile illness without any paralysis, yet may infect others with the paralytic type.

I well remember trying to trace the origin of a case of poliomyelitis, the only one in the district. The child was only 7, but he had had to visit the public conveniences in a certain town and on returning home remarked how dirty they were!. There had been no washing facilities available. Two weeks later he developed paralysis.

I wish to express my thanks for the cooperation of my colleagues in other departments, to the Borough Sanitary Inspector and the Chief Sanitary Inspector of the Rural District, and to the other members of the Public Health

Departments for their contributions to this report and
their help at other times.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

C. B. MCARTHUR,

Medical Officer of Health.

September, 1955.

GENERAL STATISTICS

1 9 5 4.

The following are the general statistics for the Oswestry Borough and Rural Health Districts:-

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH.

Area in acres	2,180
Population figure given by the Registrar General	10,970
No. of inhabited houses according to Rate Book at end of 1954	3,547
Rateable value	£87,114
Sum represented by a penny rate	£352.12.5

OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT.

Area in acres	61,527
Population figure given by the Registrar General	20,750
No. of inhabited houses according to Rate Book at end of 1954	5,252
Rateable value	£83,606
Sum represented by a penny rate	£327.0.9

COMBINED DISTRICTS.

Area in acres	63,707
Population of whole district	31,720
Area of County of Salop	861,800
Population of County of Salop	298,000

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1954.

	Male	Female	Total
<u>Live births.</u>			
Legitimate	79	77	156
Illegitimate	3	4	7
	<hr/> 82	<hr/> 81	<hr/> 163

Birth rate per 1,000 population 14.8

Birth rate after correction by comparability factor . . . 14.6

	Male	Female	Total
<u>Deaths.</u>	58	54	112

Death rate per 1,000 population 10.2

Death rate after correction by comparability factor . . . 9.3

	Male	Female	Total
<u>Still births.</u>			
Legitimate	5	1	6
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	<hr/> 5	<hr/> 1	<hr/> 6

Still birth rate per 1,000 population 0.54

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age.

Number of children under 1 year of age who died in 1954. .7

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 births 42.9

Number of Women dying in consequence of child birth.

Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 births 0.00

	Male	Female	Total
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0	0	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	0	0	0
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years).	0	0	0

OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1954.

	Male	Female	Total
<u>Live births.</u>			
Legitimate	137	123	260
Illegitimate	6	4	10
	<u>143</u>	<u>127</u>	<u>270</u>

Birth rate per 1,000 population 13.01

Birth rate after correction by comparability factor . . . 15.3

	Male	Female	Total
<u>Deaths.</u>	170	175	345

Death rate per 1,000 population 16.6

Death rate after correction by comparability factor . . . 17.7

	Male	Female	Total
<u>Still births.</u>			
Legitimate	3	4	7
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>7</u>

Still birth rate per 1,000 population 0.33

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age.

Number of children under 1 year of age who died in 1954. .5

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 births 18.5

Number of Women dying in consequence of child birth.

Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 births 0.00

	Male	Female	Total
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0	0	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	0	0	0
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	0	0	0

BIRTHS, DEATHS, STILL BIRTHS, INFANT MORTALITY, MATERNAL MORTALITY
FOR THE OSWESTRY BOROUGH AND RURAL HEALTH DISTRICTS

DISTRICT	Total Births	Birth Rate	Total Deaths	Death Rate	Still Births	Still Birth Rate Per 1,000 Population	Infant Deaths	Infant Mort.	Maternal Deaths	Maternal Mort. Per 1,000 Live Births
OSWESTRY M.B.	163	14.8	112	10.2	6	0.54	7	42.9	-	-
OSWESTRY R.D.	270	13.01	345	16.6	7	0.33	5	18.5	-	-
R TOTAL	433	13.6	457	14.4	13	0.40	12	27.7	-	-
COUNTY OF SALOP 1954.	4638	15.50	244	10.84	133	0.39	113	24.36	2	0.42
ENGLAND AND WALES.	673212	15.2	501878	11.3	16130	0.36	17098	25.5	478	0.69

Infant deaths are twelve in number. Of these 8 occurred in the first day of life and were attributed to premature birth in 2 cases combined with maternal toxæmia. Two more infants died during the first week (1 premature, 1 cerebral deformity), and two at 7 and 8 months (1 spinal deformity, 1 encephalitis).

Of the 10 deaths occurring during the lying in period 6 were in hospital.

No maternal death occurred; and only one case of puerperal pyrexia was notified.

This is an indication of the high standard of obstetrical care by doctors and midwives.

CAUSES OF DEATH

CAUSE	OSWESTRY M.B.	OSWESTRY R.D.	TOTAL	1953
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	2	2	5
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	1	1	1
Syphilitic disease	1	1	1	1
Diphtheria	1	1	1	1
Whooping Cough	1	1	1	1
Meningococcal infections	1	1	1	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	1	1	1
Measles	1	1	1	1
Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	1	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	14	16	11
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	1	7	8	7
Malignant neoplasm, breast	1	3	4	7
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	1	1	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	13	23	36	33
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	2	1	3	2
Diabetes	2	4	6	3
Vascular lesions of nervous system	16	51	67	48
Coronary disease, angina	22	35	57	47
Hypertension with heart disease	2	4	6	9
Other heart disease	13	99	112	125
Other circulatory disease	4	17	21	18
Influenza	2	6	8	6
Pneumonia	4	7	11	4
Bronchitis	4	11	15	13
Other diseases of the Resp. system	2	3	5	3
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	6	7	4
Gastritis, Enteritis and diarrhoea	1	1	1	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	2	3	5	8
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	1	2	2
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	1	1	1	1
Congenital malformations	1	1	2	7
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	9	31	40	28
Motor vehicle accidents	2	6	8	5
All other accidents	2	7	9	4
Suicide	2	2	4	6
Homicide and operations of war	1	1	1	1
All causes	112	345	457	409

INFANT MORTALITY

DISTRICT	Under 1 day	1 - 7 days		7 days - 1 month		1 - 3 months		3 - 6 months		6 - 9 months		9 - 12 months		Total		Combined total	Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births
	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.		
OSWESTRY M.B.	4	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	3	7	42.9
OSWESTRY R.D.	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	5	18.5
TOTAL	6	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	3	12	27.7
ENGLAND AND WALES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25.5

NEO-MORTALITY

DISTRICT	Deaths of infants under 1 month			Percentage of total infant deaths	Rate per 1,000 live births
	M.	F.	Total		
OSWESTRY M.B.	4	3	7	100	42.9
OSWESTRY R.D.	3	-	3	60	11.1
TOTAL	7	3	10	80	23.1

CANCER

	Deaths		Total	Rate per 1,000 Population
	M.	F.		
OSWESTRY M.B.	8	9	17	1.55
OSWESTRY R.D.	24	24	48	2.31
TOTAL	32	33	65	2.04
COUNTY OF SALOP (1953) . .	256	253	509	1.70
ENGLAND AND WALES				2.03

INFECTIOUS DISEASE TABLE FOR THE OSWESTRY BOROUGH
AND RURAL DISTRICTS, 1954.

DISTRICT.	Disease.														
	Erysipelas	Food Poisoning	Deaths	Measles	Deaths	Meningococcal Infection	Deaths	Pneumonia	Deaths	Puerperal Pyrexia	Scarlet Fever	Deaths	Whooping Cough	Deaths	
OSWESTRY M.B.	1	1	-	5	-	1	-	21	4	1	6	-	16	-	
OSWESTRY R.D.	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	13	7	-	4	-	20	-	
TOTAL	1	1	-	6	-	1	-	34	11	1	10	-	36	-	

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE FOR THE
OSWESTRY BOROUGH AND RURAL DISTRICTS, 1954.

Disease.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	1	1	-	-	2	-	-	2	-	-
Meningococcal Inf.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Pneumonia	5	6	3	2	1	3	1	3	-	1	5	4
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	1	-	-	-	-	3	2	-	2	1	1	-
Whooping Cough	5	8	13	-	1	1	-	-	1	2	1	4

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE, 1954

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH.

Ages.	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Measles		Pneumonia		Erysipelas		Food Poisoning		Puerperal Pyrexia		Meningococcal Meningitis	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
1-	-	-	2	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3-	-	1	1	3	1	1	3	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
5-	-	4	3	5	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	5	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
45-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 & over	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Not known	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	-	6	7	9	1	4	11	10	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	1

No cases of dysentery or poliomyelitis were notified.

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE, 1954.

OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT

Ages.	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Measles		Pneumonia	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
1-	-	-	3	1	-	-	1	-
3-	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	-
5-	1	1	2	6	-	-	1	-
10-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-
15-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
25-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-
45-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1
65 & over	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3
Not known	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
TOTALS	2	2	7	13	-	1	9	4

No cases of erysipelas, food poisoning, dysentery, poliomyelitis, puerperal pyrexia, or meningococcal meningitis were notified.

FOOD POISONING, 1954

DISTRICT	M.	F.	Total
OSWESTRY M.B.	1	-	1
OSWESTRY R.D.	-	-	-
TOTAL	1	-	1

DIPHThERIA IMMUNISATIONS, 1954

DISTRICT	Under 5	5 - 15	Total	Re-inforcing injections
OSWESTRY M.B.	100	1	101	111
OSWESTRY R.D.	183	45	228	324

VACCINATIONS, 1954

DISTRICT	Percentage of children under the age of 1 yr. vaccinated	Under 1	1 yr.	2-4	5-14	Over 14	Total	Re-vaccination
OSWESTRY M.B.	43.6	71	-	3	5	-	79	39
OSWESTRY R.D.	35.6	96	1	2	-	6	105	17

WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATIONS, 1954

DISTRICT	Total Numbers Immunised in 1954
OSWESTRY M.B.	73
OSWESTRY R.D.	109

INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND IMMUNISATION

Apart from an isolated case of Diphtheria in 1952 this disease has not occurred in Oswestry since immunisation was introduced: Immunisation is now accepted by the vast majority of parents as a safeguard to their children's health, and few have to be pressed to bring their infants for immunisation and for a booster dose when starting school.

Immunisation against Whooping Cough is being asked for by many parents,

The following table shows the incidence of whooping cough among those immunised, but we do not know how many more children might have been affected but for the foresight of their parents in availing themselves of the benefit of immunisation.

Unfortunately the protection afforded is only likely to be fully effective for about 2 years, and the parents are advised of the desirability of booster doses being given at the ages of 3 and 5 years.

Number of cases notified	36	%
Not immunised	31	
Immunisation incomplete	1	3
Immunised more than 2 years previously	2	6
Immunised less than 2 years previously	0	
No information	2	6

VACCINATION

It is a matter of regret that, whereas immunisation is sought after, vaccination against smallpox is only performed in less than half the infants.

Now that air travel from the East and Middle East, where smallpox is endemic, is so common, the unvaccinated members of the population are vulnerable should a case of smallpox develop in this district.

Vaccination performed in early infancy causes a minimum of disturbance and renders revaccination at a later age less likely to evoke marked general effects.

TUBERCULOSIS

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

Notifications during 1954.

	Respiratory		Non-respiratory		Total	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Civilian cases . .	6	3	-	-	6	3
Service cases . .	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	6	3	-	-	6	3
Cured	-	-	-	-	-	-
Left district . .	-	-	-	-	-	-
Deaths	-	-	-	-	-	-

Number of cases on Register at end of 1954.

Respiratory		Non-respiratory		Total	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
55	27	4	4	59	31

Number of Primary Notifications in 1954 - 9.

OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT

Notifications during 1954.

	Respiratory		Non-respiratory		Total	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Civilian cases . .	2	2	1	1	3	3
Service cases . .	1	-	-	-	1	-
Transfers	2	2	-	1	2	3
TOTALS	5	4	1	2	6	6
Cured	-	-	-	-	-	-
Left district . .	1	1	-	-	1	1
Deaths	-	1*	-	-	-	1*

Number of cases on Register at end of 1954.

Respiratory		Non-respiratory		Total	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
36	23	10	8	46	31

Number of Primary Notifications in 1954 - 7.

* 1 Female Respiratory case discovered at death.

TUBERCULOSIS

TABLE SHOWING NOTIFICATIONS FOR THE OSWESTRY BOROUGH
AND RURAL DISTRICTS FOR THE YEAR 1954.

	Respiratory		Total	Non- respiratory		Total	Combined Total
	M.	F.		M.	F.		
OSWESTRY M.B.	6	3	9	-	-	-	9
OSWESTRY R.D.	5	4	9	1	2	3	12
TOTALS	11	7	18	1	2	3	21

Death Rate per 1,000 population (Respiratory Tuberculosis).

COMBINED DISTRICTS 0.06

ENGLAND AND WALES 0.16

The past year saw the first visit to Oswestry and district of the Mobile Mass X-ray Unit based on Stoke-on-Trent.

During the sessions held almost 5,000 persons were x-rayed, which was a fair response. It is hoped that when the Unit visits the area again much larger numbers of adults will attend so that a larger proportion may be screened, and particularly those connected with the handling of food or the care of children.

All who have been seen should come for re-examination.

I would place on record, thanks to Dr. Posner and his team for the expeditious, efficient and conscientious way in which they carried out the survey.

The importance of good housing and an adequate diet in the prevention of this disease has been mentioned in earlier reports.

To this I would add the desirability of adequate rest in the group of young people aged 15 - 30 which is the common age of onset.

Education is given at the Chest Clinic and Sanatoria by doctors and nurses in the hope of preventing further cases arising in the patient's family or visiting friends. Unfortunately where the patient cannot have a bedroom to himself, passage of infection becomes more probable.

B.C.G. vaccination to protect young children and infants where there is a family history of Tuberculosis is being used in certain cases under the care of the Chest Physician; and the disease itself is being treated by the drugs introduced during the past 10 years.

MASS X-RAY SURVEYS AT OSWESTRY & ST. MARTINS.

MAY, 1954.

M A L E S				F E M A L E S			
	Number examined	Cases of possibly active Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Inactive per 1,000	Number examined	Cases of possibly active Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Inactive per 1,000	Men & Women incidence per 1,000
<u>G R O U P.</u>							
SCHOOL-CHILDREN FROM THE AGE OF 11 YEARS.	799	1	1.4	948	-	-	0.6
GENERAL PUBLIC - O S W E S T R Y.	849	4	4.7	1,273	-	-	1.9
IFTON COLLIERY.	822	-	-	7	-	-	-
ST. MARTIN'S - GENERAL PUBLIC.	114	-	-	180	-	-	-
T O T A L.	2,584	5	1.9	2,408	-	-	1.0

TOTAL EXAMINED: 4,992.

CLINICS AND HOSPITALS IN THE DISTRICT
TUBERCULOSIS

The Physician attends at:-

OSWESTRY: The Clinic, Upper Brook Street, every Friday
from 1.30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

SHREWSBURY: *17, Belmont, every Wednesday from 2 p.m. to
4 p.m.

* This Clinic moved to Copthorne Hospital on 1.1.55.

VENEREAL DISEASES

Facilities for treatment.- Clinics.

OSWESTRY:

This Clinic has been closed from September 1st, 1953.
Clinics are administered by the Regional Hospital
Board and the one available for this area is given
below, the Medical Officer attending on the days and
at the hours given.

SHREWSBURY: 1, Belmont.

Thursdays and Fridays: Men - 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Mondays: Women - 3.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.

Wednesdays: Women - 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

HOSPITALS

Oswestry and District Hospital.

Copthorne Hospital, Shrewsbury treats cases of Enteric
Fever, Meningitis, Acute Poliomyelitis or Acute Encephalitis.

Monkmoor Hospital, Shrewsbury admits other cases of Infectious Disease such as Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Measles, Whooping Cough, etc.

Other hospitals which provide accommodation for the district are:-

The County Council Hospital, Cross Houses, Shrewsbury.

The Royal Salop Infirmary, Shrewsbury.

The Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital, Shrewsbury.

The Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital,
Oswestry.

All these hospitals are administered by the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board which was constituted in accordance with the National Health Service Act.

AMBULANCE SERVICES

Under the National Health Service Act it became the duty of the County Council, the Local Health Authority under the Act, to make provisions for securing that ambulances and other means of transport are available for the conveyance of persons suffering from illness or mental defectiveness and expectant mothers or nursing mothers, from places in their area to places in or outside their area.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

These are available at the Public Health Laboratory, Royal Salop Infirmary, Shrewsbury. Telephone: Shrewsbury 4389.

The Bacteriologist is Dr. A.C. Jones, and the Pathologist Dr. G. Grant.

This Service, originally instituted as an emergency basis, is now a permanent unit at the Royal Salop Infirmary undertaking work for Local Authorities free of charge in so far as it is relevant to diagnosis. It is invaluable particularly in the expeditious dealing with the bacteriological examination of food samples.

BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE

The Blood Transfusion Service Unit based on Birmingham visits Oswestry twice each year when a large number of public spirited citizens attend.

New volunteers are constantly required to take the place of those leaving the district or reaching "retiring age", and to keep pace with the increasing demand for blood transfusion as a part of Hospital treatment.

Major Deedes, Honorary Organiser for Shropshire has kindly supplied the following figures:-

	<u>Attended.</u>	<u>Bled.</u>
Oswestry1954	232	220

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH
SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA
WATER SUPPLY

I am indebted to the Water Engineer for the following notes on water supply, etc.

Rainfall at the Mount Road Reservoirs for the year was 47.22 ins. Consumption for the year 155,688,000 gallons.

During the period October 14th to December 15th it rained on 56 out of 61 days making a total of 17.11ins.

The rainfall for October and November was 7.09 and 8.27 ins. respectively. These were among the wettest consecutive months ever recorded.

(1) Number of dwelling houses supplied from public water:-

(2) Number of population supplied from public mains:-

(a) direct to houses (1)	3,427
(2)	10,880
(b) by means of stand pipes (1)	24
(2)	90

Nature of supplies to remaining houses:

11 houses supplied by wells

4 houses supplied by Liverpool supply

1 house supplied by Rural District supply.

The houses supplied by wells are isolated dwellings on the outskirts of the town some considerable distance from the mains.

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

The water has been satisfactory both in quality and quantity.

The Corporation gathering grounds and impounding reservoir at Penygwely, together with the storage reservoirs at Mount Road do not normally provide a sufficient supply for the requirements of the town, but it is possible to augment this by drawing 250,000 gallons per day from the Liverpool Corporation Lake Vyrnwy Aqueduct, this latter supply being obtained under powers granted by an Act of Parliament.

The treatment given consists of an average period of seven days storage followed by rapid filtration with the prior addition of lime and coagulant, lime and Calgon after filtration, and chlorination by the Chloramine system.

The water supply to all parts of the town is constant and more than 99 per cent. of all dwelling houses have direct supplies or stand pipes within easy reach.

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

REPORTS OF ANALYSIS

Ref. J/YM/36 (Raw Water).

CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER MILLION.

Appearance: Opalescent with a distinct flocculent deposit.

Microscopical examination: Amorphous mineral and organic debris: diatoms, chlorophyceae and protozoa.

Turbidity: 5

Colour: Filtered: 60

Odour: Nil

pH: 6.9

Free Carbon Dioxide: 5

Electric Conductivity: 65

Total Solids: 55

Chlorine present as Chloride: 7 Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate 15

Hardness: Total: 25 Carbonate: 15 Non-carbonate: 10

Nitrate Nitrogen: 0.4

Nitrite Nitrogen: Absent

Ammoniacal Nitrogen: 0.008

Oxygen Absorbed: 6.4

Albuminoid Nitrogen: 0.16

Residual Chlorine: ...

Metals: Iron: 0.30, other metals absent.

Fluoride: (F) absent (less than 0.1)

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS

Number of Colonies	1 day at 37°C.	2 days at 37°C.	3 days at 37°C.
developing on Agar	70 per ml.	86 per ml.	230 per ml.
Presumptive Coli- (aerogenes Reaction)	Present in 50* ml.	Absent from 20 ml.	Probable 3 per 100 ml.

* Aerogenes Type I.

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

Bact. coli. (Type I)	100 ml.	50 ml.	1 per 100 ml.
Cl. welchii Reaction	100 ml.	10 ml.	

This sample has opalescence and deposit the turbidity being appreciable though not pronounced. The water is just on the acid side of neutrality, very soft in character, has a comparatively small content of mineral constituents in solution and is free from metals apart from a trace of iron. It shows distinct coliform but is otherwise of satisfactory organic quality and bacterial impurity is confined to the presence of organisms of the Coli-aerogenes group, including Bact. coli, in very small numbers. No unusual difficulty would be anticipated in the treatment of this water for the production of a public supply.

12th October, 1954.

Ref. J/YM/37 (Tap Water).

CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER MILLION

Appearance: Faint opalescence with a very slight deposit.

Microscopical examination: Amorphous mineral debris.

Turbidity: 3

Colour: filtered: 35

Odour: Nil

pH: 9.3

Free Carbon Dioxide: Absent

Electric Conductivity: 110

Total Solids: 75

Chlorine present as Chloride: 8 Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate: 25

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

Hardness: Total: 45 Carbonate: 25 Non-carbonate: 20
 Nitrate Nitrogen: 0.0 Nitrite Nitrogen: approx. 0.01
 Ammoniacal Nitrogen: 0.028 Oxygen Absorbed: 3.3
 Albuminoid Nitrogen: 0.091 Residual Chlorine: Absent
 Metals: Iron: 0.06, other metals absent.
 Fluoride: (F) absent (less than 0.1)

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS

Number of Colonies	1 day at 37°C.	2 days at 37°C.	3 days at 20°C.
developing on Agar	0 per ml.	0 per ml.	1 per ml.
Presumptive Coli-	Present in	Absent from	Probable number
aerogenes Reaction	- ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Bact. coli. (Type I)	- ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Cl. welchii Reaction	100 ml.	10 ml.	

This sample is reasonably clear and bright in appearance since it shows only slight opalescence and carries only a trace of matter in suspension. The water is distinctly though not excessively alkaline in reaction, soft in character, has a comparatively low content of mineral constituents and is free from metals apart from a negligible trace of iron. It shows appreciable though not pronounced colour but it is otherwise of satisfactory organic quality and of a high standard of bacterial purity. The water is considered wholesome in character and suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

12th October, 1954.

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Number of houses connected to public sewers . .	3,430
Number of houses connected to satisfactory private sewage disposal or treatment works . .	38
Number of houses without satisfactory means means of sewage disposal	12

REFUSE DISPOSAL

Number of wards in the town	6
Number of wards where refuse is collected . . .	6
Method of collection: By direct labour.	
Method of disposal: Controlled Tipping.	

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH
SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT

HOUSING

CLEARANCE AREAS AND INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES

RETURN FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1954.

PART A.- CLEARANCE AREA (Housing Act, 1936).

	Number of dwellinghouses demolished in the period		Number of persons displaced
	Unfit houses	Other houses	
(1) Land coloured "pink"	Nil	-	Nil
(2) Land coloured "grey"	-	Nil	

PART B.- HOUSES NOT INCLUDED IN CLEARANCE AREAS

	Number of	
	Houses	Persons displaced
<u>DEMOLITION AND CLOSING ORDERS.</u>		
<u>Housing Act, 1936.</u>		
(1) (a) Houses demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 11.	Nil	Nil
(b) Houses closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by the owners under Section 11, and still in force.	Nil	Nil
(c) Parts of buildings closed (Section 12).	Nil	Nil
(2) <u>Housing Act, 1949.</u>		
(a) Closing Orders made under Section 3 (1).	Nil	Nil
(b) Demolition Orders determined and Closing Orders substituted under Section 3 (2).	24	55
(3) <u>Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953.</u>		
Closing Orders made under Section 10 (1).	1	3

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

PART B. cont.

REPAIRS.

INFORMAL ACTION

Number of
Houses

- (4) Number of unfit or defective houses rendered fit during the period as a result of informal action by local authority under the Public Health or Housing Acts.

93

ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

- (5) Public Health Acts.

Number of houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices.

- (a) By owners
(b) By local authority in default of owners .

7
Nil

- (6) Housing Act, 1936.

Number of houses made fit after service of formal notices (Sections 9,10 and 16).

- (a) By owners
(b) By local authority in default of owners .

Nil
Nil

Number of families rehoused from condemned houses during 1954

10

Number of families awaiting rehousing from condemned houses at 31.12.54

8

There is much yet to be done.

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

FOOD PREPARING PREMISES

Number of Bakehouses	11
Number of Cafes and Restaurants	16
Number of Fish and Chip Shops	10
Number of Hotels, licensed and private	8
Number of Snack Bars	3
Number of Butcher's manufacturing premises	16
Number of Ice Cream Producers (Cold Mix)	1

During the year a great deal of time was spent inspecting food premises and carrying out the Health Education which does not hit the headlines but which counts most of all - 'on the spot' advice to food handlers, in their day-to-day surroundings. Pressure on food traders brought about structural improvements, for instance, double-sink sterilising units were installed in 2 cafes and an hotel; one grocer's premises was reorganised, with a new shop, limited refrigerated storage, and a staff room, and plans were laid for the reorganisation of two other grocery premises.- 3 cafes closed during the year.

Unfortunately the housewives do not show the constant desire for clean food trading which the activities of their various organisations suggest - how else can one explain the large quantities of cooked meats which are bought after standing in a shop window in summer, or on the counter of a warm store.

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

I am constantly pressing traders to use more refrigeration, but while the customers appear satisfied

MILK

Number of Distributors registered 7
 Number of Dairies registered 2
 Number of T.T. (Distributor) Licenses issued . . 6
 Number of Pasteurising Plants in the Borough . . 2

Sampling.

	No. Taken	No. Satisfactory	Failed M.B.	Failed Phos.	Failed M.B. & Phos.	Biological Pos. Neg.
Pasteurised	8	8	-	-	-	- -
T.T.	27	22	5	-	-	- 8

Only a very small percentage of the milk sold retail in the Borough is not bottled, and an increasing amount is heat-treated.

ICE CREAM

Number of Registered Manufacturers 1
 Number of Registered Retailers 36

Sampling.

No. Taken	No. Satisfactory	Grades				Faecal Coli Present	Chemical	
		1	2	3	4		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory.
14	14	12	-	-	-	-	2*	-

* including 1 Ice Lolly.

CREAM CAKE FILLINGS

Sampling.

	No. Taken	No. Satis- factory	Organisms per Gram			Faecal coli present	Chemical & Odour	
			Below 1,000	1,000- 10,000	Over 10,000		Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory.
Cream Cakes	18	3	3	2	12	-	1	-
Cream Cake fillings	10	-	-	1	9	-	-	-
Custard	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
TOTAL	29	3	3	3	22	-	1	-

During my 2 years in Oswestry, and before, I have been interested in raising the hygiene of cream cake production. There are no standards - but I have, in the light of experience, set a standard of less than 1,000 organisms per gram and faecal coli absent. To achieve this standard the confectioner has to be as careful in his production methods as the ice cream manufacturer must be to achieve Grade I samples - and I see no reason why he should not be. However, without any regulations to enforce the methods, once again "education" is the means of slowly achieving overdue improvements. The sampling results might suggest that my standard is too high, but I prefer to aim for a good one rather than accept a lower one.

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

PUBLIC BATHS

Sampling.

	No. Taken	No. Satis- factory	Organisms per 1,000 ml.	Faecal coli present
Baths Water	8	5	3	-

The continuing lack of a water filtration plant at the baths is much to be regretted. It is to be hoped that the installation scheme and other improvements will be completed in the not too distant future.

MINERAL WATER

Sampling.

No. Taken	No. Satisfactory
12	12

MEAT INSPECTION

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	1575	200	784	12883	3871
Number inspected	1575	200	784	12883	3871
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS					
Whole carcasses condemned	2	3	78	93	41
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	476	75	7	304	213
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis.	30.3	39.0	10.8	3.08	6.5
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY					
Whole carcasses condemned	1	5	2	-	7
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	166	49	-	-	293
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	10.6	27.0	0.26	-	7.8

Number of Slaughterhouses in use at 1.1.54 . . . 2, operating as 1 unit.
 Number of Slaughterhouses licensed after 1.7.54. 5.

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

The 2 slaughterhouses which were operated as a unit by the Ministry of Food continued after decontrol as the slaughtering premises for the Oswestry Butchers Wholesale Meat Supply Co., Ltd., and this Company continues to serve a slightly larger area than before. 3 other small private slaughterhouses are licensed; 1 is used regularly 3 times a week for killing cattle and sheep; 1 is used regularly twice a week for killing sheep and sometimes cattle. The 3rd has not been used.

There is a very great need for modern premises if slaughtering is to continue in Oswestry for any appreciable period. Oswestry, since decontrol, has maintained its position as the central slaughtering point for the rural areas around. This is in keeping with the town's history as a market town serving the Welsh hills to the West and the Shropshire Plain to the East.

I am grateful to my Rural District Colleagues for continuing the sharing of meat inspection duties at the Willow Street premises.

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

Animals slaughtered at Willow Street premises and
examined by Rural District Council and Borough Inspectors:-

<u>Beasts</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Bulls</u>	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Pigs</u>	<u>Calves</u>
1,567	200	8	12,883	3871	784

Animals slaughtered at two private slaughterhouses and
examined by Borough Inspector:-

<u>Beasts</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Pigs</u>	<u>Calves</u>
117	3	444	69	30

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

COMMON LODGING HOUSE

Number registered 1

The premises are inspected regularly and the bedrooms are disinfected as a routine measure in the Spring and Autumn.

NUISANCES

(Excluding those included in housing repair return).

Number of complaints received during the year . . 10

Number abated by informal notice 10

Number abated by statutory notice -

Number abated after Court proceedings -

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

The joint scheme with the Oswestry Rural District Council remains in operation, and serves the town satisfactorily.

VERMINOUS PREMISES

Bug Infestation.

Infested houses dealt with:

Private 3

Council Nil

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

Other Vermin.

Infested houses dealt with:

Private 5

Council 15

Verminous Persons.

4 persons had to be cleaned. As there is no steam disinfecter in this area, the work has to be done with liquid and powder insecticides and personal cleanliness. These methods have so far proved adequate.

PLACES OF ENTERTAINMENT

The two Cinemas in the town are inspected.

The licensed houses have not yet received my full attention, but I am aware that improvements in the sanitary accommodation of many are needed.

SHOPS ACT, 1950.

Number where sanitary accommodation improved . . 4

Number where washing facilities improved 4

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948.

PART I OF THE ACT

1.- INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	36	12	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	71	20	8	-
TOTAL	107	32	8	-

2.- CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which Prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	1	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)-	8	8	-	3	-
(a) Insufficient	1	1	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)					
TOTAL	9	9	-	4	-

OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT

Sanitary Circumstances of the District.

RAINFALL:- The total rainfall for the year was 38.61 inches.

Average over the last 5 years 32.88 inches.

WATER SUPPLY

The following parishes are provided with a public water supply:-

	No. of houses supplied direct.	No. of houses supplied by stand-pipe.
Selattyn	201	89
Weston Rhyn	515	32
St. Martins	552	10
Whittington	742	15
Oswestry Rural	602	20
Llanymynech	161	10
Llanyblodwel	82	3
Total	2,855	179

RESULTS OF BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS OF PIPED SUPPLIES.

Date.	Supply.	B. coli per 100 ml.	Faecal Content
28.9.54.	Maesbury. (Chlorinated).	0	0
5.4.54.	Mardy. (Chlorinated).	0	0
10.3.54.	Nantmawr.	1	0
5.7.54.	Nantmawr.	35	35
14.7.54.	Nantmawr. (Inlet to reservoir).	0	0
14.7.54.	Nantmawr. (Direct from reservoir).	5	0
20.7.54.	Nantmawr.	3	3
27.7.54.	Nantmawr. (Inlet to reservoir).	1	1
27.7.54.	Nantmawr.	5	5
27.7.54.	Nantmawr. (Direct from reservoir).	3	1

OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

RESULTS OF BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS OF PIPED SUPPLIES. (Cont.)

Date.	Supply.	B. coli per 100 ml.	Faecal Content
27.7.54.	Nantmawr.	3	1
27.9.54.	Nantmawr.	0	0
10.3.54.	Porthywaen. (Chlorinated).	18 plus	0
22.3.54.	Sweeney. (Manhole Spring).	160	90
22.3.54.	Sweeney. (Reservoir Spring).	1	1
7.4.54.	Sweeney. (Manhole Spring).	0	0
7.4.54.	Sweeney. (Reservoir Spring).	3	0
10.3.54.	Trefonen. (Chlorinated).	6	0
27.9.54.	Trefonen. (Chlorinated).	90	Present
16.8.54.	Liverpool Supply.	0	0

PRIVATE SUPPLIES.

57 samples of water for bacteriological examination were taken from 26 premises. Water at 14 premises was found to be satisfactory, and as a result of further investigations into unsatisfactory supplies another 4 supplies were rendered satisfactory. The source of pollution at the remaining 8 premises could not be precluded and, therefore, the occupiers were informed and advised to boil all water used for domestic consumption. In some of the worst supplies resort had to be made to alternative supplies.

OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES

The laying of new mains, construction of reservoirs and pumping stations has progressed favourably during the year. This work forms the priority part of the Council's Comprehensive Scheme. A new main has been laid from Mardy reservoir through Pentrevern, Iron Mills, Wigginton, and St. Martins. Excepting St. Martins, none of the areas mentioned had previously had a public water supply, and at the end of the year a number of connections to premises had been made en route. Previous to laying a new main, parts of St. Martins village were deprived of water at peak periods because of the smallness of the old mains. There is now no shortage of water in this village.

Work of laying mains etc. was also in progress in Selattyn, Pantglas, Racecourse, Nantmawr, Treflach, and Porthywaen. Other than maintenance, the only work carried out on the existing schemes was the installation of a booster on the main serving Coedygoe which has not received a sufficient supply for many years.

OSMESTRY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

SEWERAGE

The number of houses connected to the public sewer is 1,744.

Work commenced on the new sewerage scheme at Morda and was nearing completion at the end of the year. Morda House Hospital, Greenfields Hospital, six private houses and 45 Council Houses had been connected before the end of the year and the old unsatisfactory sewage works abandoned. It is hoped that all premises on the line of the new sewer will soon be connected and all pail-closets done away with.

HOUSING

Number of Council Houses in the process of erection during the year	321
Number of Council Houses completed during the year.	228
Number of Private Houses in the process of erection during the year	71
Number of Private Houses completed during the year.	37
Number of Council Houses planned for 1955. . .	152

OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

HOUSING ACT, 1949.

Fifty-two premises have been inspected at the request of owners wishing to take advantage of the improvement grant in accordance with the provisions of the Housing Act, 1949. In the first instance a preliminary inspection is made by the Engineer and Sanitary Inspector to ascertain whether the property is one to which the provisions of the Act can be applied. This practice has been adopted so that from the outset the applicant can be advised whether he is likely to obtain the grant before going to the expense of employing an architect. During the latter part of the year the number of applicants was increasing and as the provisions of the Act become more widely known it is felt that a considerable amount of time will be spent on inspection work.

HOUSING ACTS, 1936 - 1954.

The Council have decided to re-survey houses that were placed in category 4 during the comprehensive survey which took place during 1946 to 1948, and work on the survey has proceeded gradually since September. The result of the survey will later be studied by the Council and form the basis for future re-housing of people displaced from unfit houses. The standard of unfitness laid down under Section 9,

OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Housing Repairs & Rents Act, 1954, is not as stringent as the standard used during the 1946 survey and, therefore, it is envisaged that probably a lesser number of houses will be regarded as unfit. There is also under the present 1954 Act, a standard which is known as "adequate for the time being". Local authorities who wish to postpone the demolition of houses purchased by or belonging to them in a clearance area may carry out any work to bring them up to and keep them at that standard. It would, therefore, appear to be a minimum standard to ensure the house is kept wind and weatherproof and existing services, such as water and sewerage properly maintained.

A much higher standard is that laid down by the Housing Act, 1949. This standard is that which must be complied with where a person makes application for grant towards the improvement of houses.

FILTHY AND VERMINOUS PREMISES.

Number of verminous premises dealt with . . 1

Number of dirty premises dealt with 5

The verminous house was satisfactorily dealt with by the use of "Gammexane". The complaint was brought to our notice by the nurse who was attending to an old man. The man was

OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

living alone and although extremely flea bitten resented us dealing with the vermin..

The dirty premises involved have received repeated visits and whilst some improvement has been brought about in each case frequent visits will still be necessary to prevent a relapse to previous conditions.

FOOD PREPARING PLACES

FRIED FISH SHOPS.

Number of registered premises	7
Number of Inspections	10
Number of Notices served	1
Number Complied with	1

BAKEHOUSES.

Number of Premises	13
Number Inspected	13
Number of Inspections	31
Number of Written Notices	4
Number Complied with	4

CAFES AND RESTAURANTS.

Number of Premises	9
Number Inspected	9

OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

CAFES AND RESTAURANTS (Cont).

Number of Inspections 20

Number of Notices served Nil

MEAT PRODUCT PREPARING ROOMS.

Number of Premises 2

Number Inspected 2

Number of Inspections 6

Number of Notices served Nil

ICE CREAM PREMISES

Number of Registered Premises 36

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949.

Samples taken for presence of Tubercle Bacillus:-

Number 12

Positive 1

Negative 11

Number of samples taken for Methylene Blue Test. . 1

Number found to be satisfactory. 1

DISTRIBUTORS.

Dealers Licenses authorising Special Designation
"Tuberculin Tested". . 7

Supplementary Licenses authorising Special
Designation "Tuberculin Tested". . 3

OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

DISTRIBUTORS(Cont).

Supplementary Licenses authorising Special Designation "Pasteurised"	3
Supplementary Licenses authorising Special Designation "Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)".	1
Number of Registered Distributors	15

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

PRIVATE SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

Number in district 1

In June, 1954, the Council granted a licence in respect of one private slaughterhouse at Kinnerley. Since that date twice-weekly inspections of carcasses and offal have been carried out with the full co-operation of the occupier. The cleanliness of the premises, slaughtering methods, and carcasses has been maintained at a high standard. Hot and cold water is available with an adequate supply of soap and towels. The quality of the carcasses slaughtered has been exceptionally good and the low incidence of disease found can be appreciated from the following figures. The lairage at the premises does require some improvement and the owner has approached an architect with a view to having this done.

OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

<u>Offal & Part Carcasses Condemned.</u>	<u>Reason.</u>
Part hind quarter of pig. 18 lbs.	Arthritis.
1 pig's head.	Tuberculosis.
2 sheeps livers.	Fluke.
1 set of sheeps lungs.	Strongyli Rufuscens.
1 bovine head and tongue.	Cysticercus Bovis.
1 bovine liver.	Fluke.
1 set of bovine lungs.	Tuberculosis.

Whole Carcasses Condemned.

1 pig.	Acute Peritonitis.
--------	--------------------

Number of Animals Killed and Inspected.

<u>Cattle.</u>	<u>Sheep.</u>	<u>Pigs.</u>
25	175	100

The Rural Sanitary Inspector also carried out Meat Inspection at the two slaughterhouses situated in the Oswestry Borough. This is a joint arrangement made between the Borough and Rural District authorities, the Borough and Rural Inspectors carrying out the inspection every alternate week. Since decontrol of slaughtering, the slaughterhouses, hitherto used by the Ministry of Food are now used by the Oswestry and District Meat Company.

The following carcasses were inspected by the Rural Inspector at the Meat Company's slaughterhouse.

OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Number of Animals Killed.

<u>Cattle Excluding Cows</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep & Lambs</u>	<u>Pigs</u>
1,579	200	774	12,883	3,871

Number of Animals Inspected by Rural Inspector.

<u>Cattle</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Pigs</u>
902	372	6,421	1,841

MISCELLANEOUS MEAT AND FOOD CONDEMNED

4 stone 8 lbs. fish.	11 lbs. tinned ham.
464 lbs. butter.	4 lbs. tinned luncheon meat.
80 lbs. cheese.	6 lbs. tinned steak.
46 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. bacon.	6 lbs. tinned peas.
1 leg pork. 12 lbs.	3 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. tinned apricots.
31 lbs. tinned tomatoes.	5 lbs. tinned pineapples.
8 tins evaporated milk.	18 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. of cake and pudding mixture.

OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

REFUSE COLLECTION.

The collection of refuse is carried out by direct labour, nine men and three side-loading vehicles being engaged on the work. Premises are scavenged in eleven of the thirteen parishes. The number of premises collected from has increased by the number of new Council and Private Houses constructed during the year.

Many people are not as salvage-minded as they were despite the fact that waste-paper, cardboard, books and magazines are still urgently required by the processing mills. Apart from the necessity for salvage as an essential to home industry, the placing of paper etc. in dustbins does cause a considerable nuisance when the refuse is tipped on the disposal site. High winds scatter it for long distances and cause unnecessary litter about the countryside. This involves labour to gather it up again and also at the tip increases the risk of fire. The bulk of the refuse could well be diminished if we could have the full co-operation of the occupiers. As already stated paper etc. is urgently needed, therefore, it should be saved as salvage and kept out of the bins. Soiled papers and cartons along with other combustible material not fit for salvage purposes could be disposed of in the home by burning.

OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

REFUSE COLLECTION (Cont).

Again, fruit tins and the like after opening in the home could quite easily be flattened before being deposited in the bin. Flattened tins take up less space in the vehicle and at the tip, and also reduce vermin infestations at the tip.

REFUSE DISPOSAL

The time has now arrived when it will be necessary to have a controlled tipping site to serve Weston Rhyn, St. Martins, and Gobowen. The ideal site would be one of little agricultural value, but could eventually be reclaimed and put to some useful purpose. I have looked over the area for some such land but have not been able to find anywhere suitable other than good agricultural land. Other than the three parishes mentioned there is no difficulty in finding tipping space and should not be for some years to come.

PROVISION OF ASHBINS.

Informal Notices.

6

Complied with

3

Formal Notices.

2

Formal notices complied with

2

OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

NUISANCES.

Number dealt with by informal notice	123
Number complied with	89
Number of Abatement Notices	3
Number complied with	1

MAGISTERIAL PROCEEDINGS.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

Two summonses were served on owners of property for non-compliance with Court Orders requiring repairs of a structural character. At the time of hearing one case the work of repair had been commenced and the case was adjourned. At the adjourned hearing evidence was given that the repairs were complete and the defendant was ordered to pay costs.

In the second case the Magistrate fined the owner £2 and ordered repairs to be carried out by 1st February, 1955. Further fine of 5/0d. for each day beyond 1st February, 1955, for which the offence continued.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

15 licenses were granted during the year.

9 licenses granted by way of renewal.

6 new licenses granted.

OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

There are no public conveniences in the district.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

The above Act continues to be administered by a Joint Committee of the Oswestry Borough Council and Oswestry Rural District Council. The number of contracts has decreased, possibly because of three reasons: (1) Premises have been cleared of infestations, (2) greater usage by occupiers themselves of "Warfarin", (3) the Joint Committee's revision of contract fees which resulted in increased cost to the occupier.

As a result of the decreased number of contracts, and consequently, treatments, a greater number of premises have been inspected for the presence of rats and mice. Very few major infestations have been found and those of a minor nature have invariably been dealt with after the occupiers have received advice and an informal notice from the Health Department. Up to November three men were employed on inspection and treatment work. The number was then reduced to two men and up to the present time it has been found that they are able to carry out the obligations of the Council.

Test baiting of the sewers has been carried out and no evidence of infestation was found.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948.

PART I OF THE ACT

1.- INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	6	6	1	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	61	45	7	-
TOTAL	67	51	8	-

2.- CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which Prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)-					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	2	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	1	-
TOTAL	1	1	-	3	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT.(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	No. of out- workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in send- ing list to the Council	No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in un- wholesome premises	Notices Served	Prosecu- tions
Wearing { Making etc. apparel	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

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